

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

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INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY (Chapter II of the Patent Cooperation Treaty)

(PCT Article 36 and Rule 70)

REC'D 19 MAY 2005

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Applicant's or agent's file reference C96.WO.1.01	FOR FURTHER ACTION	
See Form PCT/IPEA/416		
International application No. PCT/B2004/001367	International filing date (day/month/year) 04.05.2004	Priority date (day/month/year) 05.05.2003
International Patent Classification (IPC) or national classification and IPC A45D29/20		
Applicant C.M.L. S.R.L. ET AL.		

1. This report is the international preliminary examination report, established by this International Preliminary Examining Authority under Article 35 and transmitted to the applicant according to Article 36.

2. This REPORT consists of a total of 5 sheets, including this cover sheet.

3. This report is also accompanied by ANNEXES, comprising:

- a. (*sent to the applicant and to the International Bureau*) a total of 4 sheets, as follows:
 - sheets of the description, claims and/or drawings which have been amended and are the basis of this report and/or sheets containing rectifications authorized by this Authority (see Rule 70.16 and Section 607 of the Administrative Instructions).
 - sheets which supersede earlier sheets, but which this Authority considers contain an amendment that goes beyond the disclosure in the international application as filed, as indicated in item 4 of Box No. I and the Supplemental Box.
- b. (*sent to the International Bureau only*) a total of (indicate type and number of electronic carrier(s)), containing a sequence listing and/or tables related thereto, in computer readable form only, as indicated in the Supplemental Box Relating to Sequence Listing (see Section 802 of the Administrative Instructions).

4. This report contains indications relating to the following items:

- Box No. I Basis of the opinion
- Box No. II Priority
- Box No. III Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability
- Box No. IV Lack of unity of invention
- Box No. V Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement
- Box No. VI Certain documents cited
- Box No. VII Certain defects in the international application
- Box No. VIII Certain observations on the international application

Date of submission of the demand 27.10.2004	Date of completion of this report 20.05.2005
Name and mailing address of the international preliminary examining authority:  European Patent Office - P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2 NL-2280 HV Rijswijk - Pays Bas Tel. +31 70 340 - 2040 Tx: 31 651 epo nl Fax: +31 70 340 - 3016	Authorized Officer Schmitt, J Telephone No. +31 70 340-3880
	

**INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT
ON PATENTABILITY**

International application No.
PCT/IB2004/001367

Box No. I Basis of the report

1. With regard to the **language**, this report is based on the international application in the language in which it was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.
 - This report is based on translations from the original language into the following language, which is the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of:
 - international search (under Rules 12.3 and 23.1(b))
 - publication of the international application (under Rule 12.4)
 - international preliminary examination (under Rules 55.2 and/or 55.3)
2. With regard to the **elements*** of the international application, this report is based on (*replacement sheets which have been furnished to the receiving Office in response to an invitation under Article 14 are referred to in this report as "originally filed" and are not annexed to this report*):

Description, Pages

2-5 as originally filed
1 received on 27.10.2004 with letter of 27.10.2004

Claims, Numbers

1-17 received on 27.10.2004 with letter of 27.10.2004

Drawings, Sheets

1/2-2/2 as originally filed

- a sequence listing and/or any related table(s) - see Supplemental Box Relating to Sequence Listing
- 3. The amendments have resulted in the cancellation of:
 - the description, pages
 - the claims, Nos. 18-20
 - the drawings, sheets/figs
 - the sequence listing (*specify*):
 - any table(s) related to sequence listing (*specify*):
- 4. This report has been established as if (some of) the amendments annexed to this report and listed below had not been made, since they have been considered to go beyond the disclosure as filed, as indicated in the Supplemental Box (Rule 70.2(c)).
 - the description, pages
 - the claims, Nos.
 - the drawings, sheets/figs
 - the sequence listing (*specify*):
 - any table(s) related to sequence listing (*specify*):

* If item 4 applies, some or all of these sheets may be marked "superseded."

**INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT
ON PATENTABILITY**

International application No.
PCT/IB2004/001367

Box No. V Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement

1. Statement

Novelty (N)	Yes:	Claims	1-17
	No:	Claims	none
Inventive step (IS)	Yes:	Claims	1-17
	No:	Claims	none
Industrial applicability (IA)	Yes:	Claims	1-17
	No:	Claims	none

2. Citations and explanations (Rule 70.7):

see separate sheet

**INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY
REPORT ON PATENTABILITY
(SEPARATE SHEET)**

International application No.

PCT/IB2004/001367

Re Item V

Reasoned statement with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement

1 Reference is made to the following documents:

- D1: DE 200 14 372 U (LOOF FRIEDRICH) 21 December 2000 (2000-12-21)
- D2: US-A-2 147 314 (PAUL PERCY) 14 February 1939 (1939-02-14)
- D3: US-A-5 395 166 (WATSON HARRIETT M) 7 March 1995 (1995-03-07)
- D4: DE 100 24 604 A (THOMAS WOLFGANG) 29 November 2001 (2001-11-29)
- D5: DE 101 37 439 A (HIMMELREICH LOTHAR) 6 March 2003 (2003-03-06)
- D6: DE 199 01 589 C (PROFESSIONAL PRODUCTS M NAUMAN) 8 February 2001 (2001-02-08)
- D7: US-A-5 139 546 (NOVOBILSKI CARL G) 18 August 1992 (1992-08-18)

2 Document D1, which is considered to represent the most relevant state of the art, discloses (cf. figure 1) a device for beauty treatment of limbs from which the subject-matter of claim 1 differs in that

in operating condition (P), the upper portion of filtering means (9) defines a second support (10).

2.1 The subject-matter of claim 1 is therefore new (Article 33(2) PCT).

2.2 The problem to be solved by the present invention may be regarded as providing for an additional and ventilated support for tools soaked with varnish or fresh resins used during the treatment of the limbs.

The solution to this problem proposed in claim 1 of the present application is considered as involving an inventive step (Article 33(3) PCT) for the following reasons:

Although US 5 139 546 A (D7) proposes to use the upper portion of the filtering means as a support for tools and limbs, no available prior art proposes or renders it obvious to arrange the filtering means of a device as disclosed in D1 in a way that they define a second, ventilated support for tools below but close to the limb support.

**INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY
REPORT ON PATENTABILITY
(SEPARATE SHEET)**

International application No.

PCT/IB2004/001367

2.3 Claims 2-17 are dependent on claim 1 and as such also meet the requirements of the PCT with respect to novelty and inventive step.

DEVICE FOR BEAUTY TREATMENT OF LIMBS

TECHNICAL FIELD

The present invention relates to devices for beauty treatment of human body, particularly it refers to a device for beauty treatment of limbs or other parts of the body.

The known means used by operators for executing beauty treatment of hand consist of a plurality of tools, supports and the like generally positioned on a work table and used, one after the other, during the different treatment phases of hand, particularly of fingernails.

A drawback of said known means and supports consists in that they are bulky, can be mislaid and they do not allow rationalizing and accelerating the operations to be executed on the hands.

Other drawback consists in that the possible aspirators of the known means, being generally fixed, often are not in the same position of the hand on which nail varnishes, resins and similar are applied and, therefore, said aspirator are often ineffective.

Further drawback consists in that generally said known means do not allow a quick removal, application and hardening of nail varnishes and resins, which are applied to the fingernails.

Document DE 200 14 372 discloses a device for beauty treatment of limbs including a first support for at least one limb portion fit for allowing an operator to operate on said portion by using tools, products and material and it includes aspirator means fit to suck air with powders and/or vapors of products used for the beauty treatment of limbs and fit to reintroduce the purified air in the environment. The device further includes a set of lamps for the treatment of the limb portion or for working on products applied to the limb

DISCLOSURE OF THE INVENTION

An object of the present invention is to propose a device for beauty treatment of limbs, which is portable and fit to allow an operator to execute a sequence of several different beauty treatment operations of hands, feet or other portions of human body, in a fast and rational way.

Other object is to propose a device fit to suck powders coming by working false nails, to purify fumes and gases produced by varnishes and the like applied to the fingernails and to facilitate application, hardening and removal of said nail varnishes.

CLAIMS

1) Device for beauty treatment of limbs including at least:

- a first support (2) for at least one limb portion fit for allowing an operator to operate on said portion by using tools, products and material;
 - aspirator means (3) fit to suck air with powders and/or vapors of products used for the beauty treatment of limbs and fit to reintroduce the purified air in the environment;
 - a set of lamps (4) for the treatment of the limb portion or for working on products applied to the limb;
- in an operating condition (P) in which base means (6) of device (1) mate an almost plain and horizontal surface, the aspirator means (3) is below the first support (2) an edge (7) thereof is close and facing a portion of aspirator means (3) that include at least a motorized fan (8) associated to filtering means (9); said device (1) being characterized in that in operating condition (P), the upper portion of filtering means (9) defines a second support (10).

2) Device according to claim 1 characterized in that the first support (2) has a convex shape and a surface adequate to support two hands or feet.

3) Device according to claim 1 characterized in that the set of lamps (4) is housed in a cavity (11) for at least one hand or foot.

4) Device according to claim 1 characterized in that the lamps (4) have a light emission of suitable spectrum for the polymerization or hardening of products applied to the nails.

5) Device according to claim 1 characterized in that includes removable containers (12) for the products used for beauty treatment of limbs.

30 6) Device according to claim 5 characterized in that includes support means (13) for the wrist adjacent to the removable containers (12).

- 7) Device according to claim 1 characterized in that include ultrasonic means for making easier to remove false nails, nail varnishes, resins and similar from the fingernails.
- 8) Device according to claim 7 characterized in that the ultrasonic means are associated to a container for a liquid and for the fingernails to be cleaned.
- 9) Device according to the claim 7 characterized in that it includes a timer (5) controlling the ultrasonic means.
- 10) Device according to claim 1 characterized in that includes at least a handle (16).
- 11) Device according to claim 1 characterized in that further includes a switchboard (20) provided at least with one on-off button (21), one power supply jack (22) and one rheostat (23).
- 12) Device according to claim 11 characterized in that further includes a supply transformer, for powering external tools through supply jack (22).
- 13) Device according to claim 6 characterized in that further comprises an eyelid portion (24) at the upper external edge of cavity (11) for protecting the lamps (4) against collisions and impacts.
- 14) Device according to claim 1 characterized in that further comprises hinged portions (25) of the device side walls.
- 15) Device according to claim 3 characterized in that further comprises inner fan means, whose outlet flows into the cavity (11) and which are fit for drying and hardening the products applied to the fingernails.
- 16) Device according to claim 3 characterized in that further comprises drawer means for containing products for treatment which can be extracted from the cavity (11).

- 17) Device according to claim 9 characterized in that the timer (5) at least controls the lighting time of lamps (4)